

registering information pertaining to the status of said detection means.--

--22. A method for monitoring the integrity of a detection means associated with a target network of computers and configured to detect an attack on said network of computers comprising the steps of:

establishing a secure link for the transfer of data between said detection means and a master system hierarchically independent from said detection means;

monitoring the status of said detection means through said secure link; and

registering information pertaining to the status of said detection means.--


Remarks

Prior to examination of the above referenced application, entry of the above amendment to the claims is requested. New Claims 13-22 are added to further recite a network security system having detection means associated with the target network, where these detection means detect attacks on the network. Support for new claims may be found on pages 6-10 of the specification as well as in the originally submitted Fig. 2.

It is believed that no fees are due in connection with the present amendment. However, should any fees or extensions be necessary, payment of the appropriate amount and/or granting of the appropriate extension is requested, and the Commissioner is directed to debit our deposit account, Account No. 500675, for the amounts required.

Respectfully submitted,

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